*MCHM00373_0000[1]Things Not Seen* by Andrew Clements Study Guide

Directions: Please use your understanding of the **literary terms** to write thoughtful responses to the following questions. Record your answers in complete, detailed sentences in your notebook.

Chapter 1: About Me

1. What does Bobby discover on Tuesday morning? How does he react?
2. What is the **setting** of this **novel**?
3. How do Bobby’s parents react to his situation? What do their reactions say about their **characterization**?
4. Describe Bobby’s personality based on his relationship with his parents.
5. Make a prediction about Bobby’s situation.

Chapter 2: Experiments

1. Describe Bobby’s experiments.
2. Why do you think Bobby likes to escape the “real world” by reading books?
3. Bobby is disappointed in his parents’ reactions. How do you think your parents would react if you became invisible?

Chapter 3: Out There

1. Why does Bobby dress the way he does when he leaves the house? What do you think are some possible problems with this plan?
2. How does Bobby make his way through the library?
3. What is Bobby’s “good deed” and how does it turn bad?
4. Make a prediction about Bobby’s relationship with the blind girl.

Chapter 4: Multiple Impacts

1. How do the “new rules” in Bobby’s house benefit him?
2. Explain the two sides of the argument Bobby has with his dad. Be sure to take into consideration the **point of view** of each side.
3. What does Bobby learn from the evening news? Why is this an even bigger tragedy now?

Chapter 5: Wreckage

1. Why are Dr. Sarah Fleming’s words: “there’s nothing to be afraid of” **ironic**?
2. Who is Aunt Ethel? Why does Bobby “have to hand it to mom”?
3. What is Bobby’s decision at the end of this chapter?

Chapter 6: Visiting Hours

1. Explain the **simile**: “right as rain” on page 48.
2. Find another **simile** in this chapter and explain.

Chapter 7: First Night

1. Why must Bobby avoid Mrs. Trent?
2. Explain the quotation “nothing to fear but fear itself” and apply to Bobby’s situation. (Hint: find out who first said this and gain extra credit)

Chapter 8: My Life

1. Why is Bobby’s father annoying him? Would you react this way if you were in his situation?
2. What are Bobby’s worries about his future?
3. Why is an “unseasonably warm” day a good thing for Bobby? How does he take advantage of it?

Chapter 9: Lone Warrior

1. What does Bobby discover about toughness?
2. What have you learned about Bobby’s social status at school?
3. In what **point of view** is this story **narrated**?

Chapter 10: Push and Pull

1. What is unusual about Bobby’s conversation with the blind girl in the listening room?
2. What does it mean to “stick your foot in your mouth”? How does Bobby do this?

Chapter 11: Close Calls

1. Using the **dialogue** between Alicia and Bobby, what do you think *sarcasm* is?
2. How does Alicia discover Bobby’s secret? How does she react?
3. How do you think you would react?

Chapter 12: A Friend

1. Why do you think Alicia is so willing to accept Bobby the way he is?

Chapter 13: Trusting

1. Why is Mrs. Phillips so upset that Bobby told Alicia about his situation? Why do you think Bobby told her?
2. Explain Alicia’s confession to Bobby. Why does she know what its like to be invisible?

Chapter 14: Two Committees

1. How does Mrs. Van Dorn react to Bobby’s visit?
2. Why did Bobby wake up afraid on Saturday morning? How was this different from the other days that week?
3. How does Bobby play “detective”?
4. How are the school nurse and Mr. Creed causing **conflict** for Bobby? What type of **conflict** is this?

Chapter 15: A Small War

1. Who is Officer Martha Pagett?
2. Describe Mrs. Phillips’ “old radical upbringing”? How does her experience help her deal with Officer Pagett?
3. What is Aunt Ethel’s response to Bobby’s situation?

Chapter 16: Searching for Bobby Phillips

1. Make a prediction about Officer Pagett’s investigation.

Chapter 17: Connections

1. Re-read Alicia’s summary of H. G. Wells’ *The Invisible Man* on page 136. How do you think Bobby feels after hearing this story?
2. How is Alicia’s **point of view** about the story different from Bobby’s? What does this say about her **characterization**?

Chapter 18: Pizza and Puzzles

1. What do Mr. and Mrs. Phillips have in common with Mr. and Mrs. Van Dorn?
2. What do Bobby and Alicia discover online?
3. Describe two instances where Bobby has been *treated* like he is invisible?

Chapter 19: General Bobby

1. Why must Bobby only use his mother’s cell phone to make calls?
2. What does Bobby learn about his electric blanket from the Sears customer service operator?
3. What is Bobby’s plan?

Chapter 20: Destinations

1. What have you learned about Alicia’s relationship with her mother?
2. What is the Americans With Disabilities Act?

Chapter 21: Findings

1. Who is Amber Carson? What information does Bobby need from her? How does Bobby go about obtaining the information from her computer?
2. What kind of experience does Alicia have on her job interview?

Chapter 22: Calls Fifty-Nine and Sixty

1. Summarize Bobby’s conversation with Mr. Borden.
2. How does Bobby feel he has changed over the last three weeks?
3. How did Alicia feel about her meeting at Sears?

Chapter 23: Long-Lost Sister

1. What is the threat/promise that Officer Pagett makes to Mrs. Phillips?
2. Summarize Bobby’s conversation with Sheila Borden.
3. Loneliness is one of the **themes** of this novel. How does this relate to invisibility?

Chapter 24: First Class Work

1. Make a prediction: Who do you think will solve the puzzle: Bobby or Mr. Phillips? Do you think the puzzle will be solved? Explain your answer.

Chapter 25: BINGO!

1. What does Mr. Van Dorn learn from the relational database analysis?
2. Why don’t the adults want Bobby to be honest with the authorities about his situation?

Chapter 26: Night Shift

1. Explain Alicia’s “two negatives make a positive” theory. What does she mean when she says “you can’t get more invisible”?
2. Make a prediction: Will Bobby’s experiment work?

Chapter 27: Search and Seizure

1. Why does Bobby’s family wake up at 4: 30 am? Explain Bobby’s close call with Officer Pagett.

Chapter 28: Looking Again

1. Why do you think Sheila wants to be forgotten?
2. What makes Alicia “see” herself again?